REASONS

Why a Certain

GREAT G—L

Has not yet Receiv'd the

THANKS

Of either of the

Two Houſes of Parliament;

AS ALSO

A ſhort ENQUIRY into thoſe Eminent SERVICES which make it neceſſary in ſome Caſt St———n's Opinion, why he ſhould receive them, with ſome Conjectures on the Cauſe of our late Diſapointments in *SPAIN*.

In a Letter to the Mayor of St. Albans.

Printed in the YEAR, 1710.
(Price 2*d*.)

REASONS

Why a Certain

GREAT G—L

Has not yet Receiv'd the

THANKS

Of either of the

Two Houſes of Parliament;

AS ALSO

A ſhort ENQUIRY into thoſe Eminent SERVICES which make it neceſſary in ſome Caſt ——— n's Opinion, why he ſhould receive them, with ſome Conjectures on the Cauſe of our late Diſappointments in SPAIN.

In a Letter to the Mayor of St. Albans.

Printed in the YEAR, 1710.
(Price 2d.)

BRITISH LIBRARY 1753 APR

A LETTER TO THE MAYOR OF St. Albans.

SIR,

I Find by yours, that my late Lord *Haverſham*'s Ghoſt wants Exorciſing, and that it is high time to remove the Prejudices ſome of your Corporation have receiv'd from his Pretended *Speech*, leſt the *Deceas'd* Peer ſhould have the ſame effect upon the Burrough at this Juncture, with his *Inſinuations*; as a

Living Peereſs has formerly had with her *Artifices.*

You and your Brethren know me too well to think that I'll Flatter Her, or have reaſon to ſpeak any thing but Truth of any one that belongs to Her; It was always my Cuſtome ſo to demean my ſelf as to be above the Fear of Authority, and if thoſe in Power behav'd themſelves otherwiſe than becomes their High Stations, it ſhall ever be my Buſineſs that their ill Practices ſhall not be above my Cognizance.

Miſtake me not, that I arrogate *Bickerſtaff*'s Cenſorſhip to my ſelf; or draw Concluſions from hence, That it is in any private Man's Sphere to aſcend the Throne of Judgment peculiarly ſet apart for Men of High Rank and Condition, but ſince I perhaps have a better Title to write Letters *Living* and in a good ſtate of Health, than any *defunct* Creature to make *Speeches* when *Dead*, you'll excuſe my ſending you an Anſwer to your Queſtion, *Why the D—— has not receiv'd the Thanks of either of the Two Houſes of Parliament? with the Votes and other Printed News.*

Not

Not that I am out of an Intereſt, which his Grace has gone ſo great Lengths for the Preſervation of, but have the Authority and Grandeur of the *Britiſh* Parliaments ſo much at Heart, as to be very much againſt their making publick Acknowledgments of Services that have not been eminently diſtinguiſh'd by the Advancement of the Publick Good.

That *Doway* and *Bethune*, St. *Venant* and *Aire*, have fall'n into our Hands this laſt Campaign is very certain; That we have extended our Conqueſts, and rais'd Contributions to an incredible Sum is beyond Contradiction, but that We for our parts (I ſpeak of *Great Britain*) are much the better for all theſe Advantages than we were before they were acquir'd, it will be difficult, very difficult to make appear, ſince what we propos'd to our ſelves by the War, remains yet to be gain'd; and *Peace*, and *Dunkirk* demoliſh'd, ſeem much farther off now than when we laſt enter'd into Preleminaries with *France*, for thoſe purpoſes.

The *Roman* Senates, from which all Aſſemblies of that Name derive themſelves, never decreed a Triumph, no, not ſo much as an *Ovation*, for any Conqueſt under a Province reduc'd to their Obedience, or a Kingdom made Tributary; and among all their Hiſtorians, not an Inſtance is to be found of any one General's receiving the Publick Acknowledgments after that manner for any one Town being taken, but ſuch as were the Capitals of Commonwealths, and gave Names to Countries and States, as *Carthage*, over which *Scipio Africanus* had this Honour for being Conqueror. Now, ſince the General you are ſo very much concern'd for (whatſoever He has done in former Campaigns) has only made himſelf Maſter, and that for the Advantage of Foreign States, of ſome few Towns, at the Expence of more Blood and Treaſure than the Poſſeſſion of Them is ſaid to be Worth; ſince the *Roman* Examples were of Force to invite us in other Caſes, and we have imitated them ſo cloſely in our Rewards upon other occaſions, why ſhould we go ſo Wide of them in this?

The D. himſelf has been pleas'd to take Notice more than once when the Thanks of

of Parliaments have been given Him, That *it was the highest Honour could be done to a Subject*; and we should very much depretiate the high value set upon those Thanks, should they be otherwise made use of, than upon the most Meritorious and Important Accounts. Besides, the Representative Body of the Nation that now sits at *Westminster*, are Persons that are under no *Restraint* of being *lavish* of their *Money* or their *Praises*, and will not lessen the Price of what His Grace has such an inestimable Regard for, by conferring them but upon the Most Deserving Considerations. Heavens be prais'd for the Queen's and the Peoples Choice, we are safe under the Care of such Patriots as can distinguish betwixt real and imaginary Advantages, betwixt such as *Husband* the War for themselves and Families, and such as carry it on for the Ends it was began for; and know the Worth of their Applause too much to Vote Thanks to his Grace for supporting the Constitution by the Battle of *Blaregnies* and a Glorious Campaign, with their Acknowledgments to Mr. *Hoadly* for endeavouring to destroy it, in almost one and the same Breath, as another set of Representatives have sometime since done.

From Hence it is that the Nation may expect a ſatisfactory Knowledge in every Seſſion of Parliament, of what has been done in every Preceding Campaign, and every Winter Diſburſements will be clearly and faithfully accounted for by our Summer Expences. Hence it is, that all His Grace's Heroical Atchievements will be ſet in a true Light, and *Blenheim*, *Schellenburgh*, *Audenard* and *Ramellies*, will ſhine as becomes the moſt unpreſidented Victories, ſince to have the Thanks of Parliament for leſs important Conqueſts might in any unbyaſs'd opinion, be to ſet the *firſt* and the *laſt* upon one and the ſame Footing, and put us upon Ways and Means of ſettling more 5000 *l*'s *per Annum*, and Inveſting him with more *Mannors* than thoſe of *Woodſtock* and *Wooton*; Gifts at this Time of Day, which I believe we are little able, if we were willing, to part with.

To be perpetually loading *Generals* with Rewards for being Serviceable to their Country, may prove fatal to the States whoſe Service they are engag'd in, and bring them to ſuch Impoſthumated Thoughts as may ſwell them into too great an Opinion of their own Merits, without any Retroſpect

ſpect to the Duty which is owing to their Country. Had *Athens* been leſs Liberal, *Alcibiades* had been more Loyal, and had not endeavour'd to have perverted his Countrymens Favours to his Country's Enſlavement. Tradition furniſhes us with many Inſtances of the like Nature, and when Subjects are in Danger of forgetting what is due to their Sovereign, 'tis high Time the Temptation ſhould be kept from them that may allure them to it, and thoſe that are in Power ſhould call to mind what is due to themſelves.

But to clear my ſelf in relation to ſome Objections that may be rais'd about this Compariſon, you are to be told, that I am far, very far, from bringing the *Greek* Heroe into Competition with the *Britiſh*, ſince the latter as much excells the former in his Actions as he does in his Years, and there is a mighty diſproportion between the fiery and unreſolv'd ſtarts of the one's Youth, and the unaffected and unſhaken Temperament of the other's Age; yet ſince no Human Being ever attain'd to that Degree of Perfection as not to be liable to the failures of Human Nature, and it is not beyond a Poſſibility that the greateſt Humility

ty and Condescention may sometime or other work it self up to more Elevated Notions; those who are his G——s chief Admirers will pardon me if, tho' I cannot shake Hands with the *Dead* Lord *Haversham*'s Assertions, I hold the same Opinion with the *Living*, and say, *What has been, may be.*

The Times have been when the Affections of the Soldiers were more than a Match for the Favours of the State, and numberless Precedents are to be found in Historical Accounts, Domestick as well as Foreign, how much the Supreme Authority of the last has been forc'd to submit to the Usurpations of the first, when Men of Office and Character in the Army have had the Insolence *to stand by their General* against the Prerogative and just Rights of the Prince; and those that eat His Bread, and receiv'd His Pay, have murmur'd at the Dispensations of that Hand which gave it them, in favour of a *Protector* of their own Creating.

Something like this, if *Examiners*, and Common Fame speak true, has been in Agitation not long since; and when general Officers

Officers have the preſumption to *drink Confuſion to a Miniſtry*, we may juſtly apprehend it to be none of their Faults, if the Reſult of thoſe Execrations does not fall upon their Miſtreſs; ſince their Intereſts are ſo cloſely united, that what is of ill Conſequence to the one, muſt have the ſame Effect upon the other, eſpecially were ſuch a ſet of Counſellors are at the Head of the Adminiſtration, as have the Direction of Ours.

You are readily furniſh'd with an Anſwer to this, and tell me, *No General whatſoever is reſponſible for the Diſcourſe of his Under Officers; and that He can have no ſhare in the Guilt that is an utter ſtranger to the Crime.* True: Therefore, you find Him undiveſted of any one of his great Employments, and abſolv'd from any manner of Reproach, either from Prince or People; you ſee Him poſſeſs'd of all that a Subject can wiſh for, or Sovereign can beſtow, in the Bleſſings of Wealth, Honour and Favour, which has no Reſemblance of Ingratitude, and abſolves Queen and Parliament from any thing like it.

To be poſſeſs'd of the Chief Dignities of *Great Britain*, and by the Favours of his Royal Miſtreſs to be admitted among the Princes of the Empire; To be made a Duke, Generaliſſimo of her Majeſty's Forces, Embaſſador Extraordinary, and Plenipotentiary, Maſter of the Ordnance, *&c.* by the Queen's particular Bounty; To have his Dutcheſs by the ſame Unexampled Munificence, Groom of the Stole, firſt Lady of the Bed-Chamber, Privy Purſe, Chief Ranger of *Windſor* Foreſt, *&c.* and his Daughters in the Greateſt and moſt Honourable Places of Truſt near her Majeſty's Perſon, are ſufficient Inducements for any one to think that his Services cannot exceed the Rewards have been given for them; and what both Houſes of Parliament have done in Commemoration of his Victories and Conqueſts, muſt abſolve them likewiſe from the Sin of Ingratitude.

It may ſeem invidious to tell the World that an Income of more than 100000 *l. per Annum*, would have been a ſufficient Recompence for the Reduction of *France* and *Spain* to his own Terms and Conditions; but neceſſity obliges me to affirm,

That

That an addition to this, before we have compaſs'd the ends for which it was given, a Glorious and Laſting Peace, is altogether ſuperfluous and unneceſſary, and the way muſt of Courſe be pav'd to a freſh Demand, from a freſh Oblation of Thanks.

Juſtice as well as Reaſon forbids me to detract from that high Worth which he is ſo Univerſally Applauded for; but Nature has Inſtill'd Principles into me which I cannot part from, ſuch as my Affection for the Place of my Nativity, my Concern for its Peace and Tranquility, and my deſire of ſeeing it as little Burthen'd as will Conſiſt with its Honour and Intereſt, and theſe oblige me not to ſet too great a Value upon it.

Merit, tho' never ſo tranſcendent and attractive of Admiration, will like the Sun in its very Meridian, draw Fogs and noiſome Exhalations to it ſelf, and by how much the more Eminent it is in its Dignity and Nature, by ſo much the more liable and obnoxious is it to the Cenſures of ſuch as cannot arrive to it. But if it was ſaid by *Cæſar* himſelf, *That it was*

Criminal

Criminal in Cæsars *Wife, even so much as to be suspected*; if the Empress of the World was thought worthy to be Repudiated even upon bare Conjectures and Surmises, how nearly does it concern such as move in a lower Orb of Greatness, and are only the Delegates of Imperial Authority, to be purg'd from all Imputations that may affect their Character, and set Right in the Eyes of the World that will be their Judges, and without so doing, turn Suspicions into the Highest Misdemeanours?

The Records of past times among the People I before spoke of, the *Romans*, tell us of Generals that for the sake of supporting their own Honour in one Part of the World, are said to have been the Cause of losing that of their Country in all others; Of Consuls, that out of Regard to themselves and the Perquisites of War, were accus'd of having rejected the Conditions of Peace tho' never so Advantageous to those they fought for; and prefer'd the loss of Legions before Towns, to the Acquisition of Victories in open Fields; of Embassadors, that have postpon'd a certain Benefit to an uncertain Expectation; and tho' it cannot be said any one

of

of the foregoing ſtations have been made uſe of by any *Britiſh* Subject to any one of the forgoing purpoſes, I preſume it may without Offence be affirm'd, That the Perſons ſo Offending, had no Decrees in their Favour from the *Roman* Senate.

What remains for me to ſay, is, That whenever it ſhall appear (as undoubtedly endeavours will be made to make it out) that our late Misfortunes in *Spain* owe nothing of their Rize to ſuch a vaſt part of our Forces and Treaſure being ſent to *Flanders*; that our preſent Succeſſes there are a Ballance for our Loſſes elſewhere, and our inſiſting upon all the Preliminaries laſt year without an Equivalent, will bring the *French* King to better Terms the next: I ſhall readily joyn my endeavours, that the Thanks of the Houſe may not only be given to the G——l but to the late M——y, who have all along ſo heartily ſupported him; and give my Concurrence to any Vote in his Favour, for any further Premium that ſhall be thought equal to his Service, or the Nation's Abilities. In the mean time Mr. Mayor, you'll hold me excus'd, if till then,

then, I Rank my self among the *silent* Admirers of the last Campaign, and tacitly Commend what I cannot so well express in Words as your Old Acquaintance Mr. *Lomax*, while I take Pleasure in Writing my self

Your

Assured Friend and Servant.

FINIS.